

Tobacco Tid-Bits

Tobacco Free Coalitions of Clark County and Skamania County
Clark County Health Department • Tobacco Prevention Program

Issue 45

January 2004

Judge Overturns Pierce County Smoking Ban

Smokers can light up again in many Pierce County bars and restaurants. On January 22 a judge overturned the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's 3-week-old indoor smoking ban, ruling that it conflicted with state law. "The law clearly gives property owners - bars, taverns, bowling alleys, others - authority to allow smoking," Pierce County Superior Court Judge Ronald Culpepper told a courtroom packed with restaurant and bar owners and their employees. The seven-member Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health voted unanimously last month to prohibit smoking in bars, restaurants, bowling allies, mini-casinos, hotels, private clubs and most non-tribal businesses. Olympia-based, Entertainment Industry Coalition, filed the lawsuit on behalf of the owners of Pierce County businesses, charities and clubs opposing the smoking resolution. The Health Department plans to appeal the decision to either the state Court of Appeals or straight to the state Supreme Court, according to their lawyer. (Tribnet.com, 1/23/04)

News From Skamania County

- * Watch for a full Quit Line ad in the Skamania Events and Recreation Winter program. It has a wide distribution in several local papers, schools, and community locations.
- * A big thanks to Ted Fuller for putting Quit Line materials in his Washougal Mercantile store. His store is the first partner organization in the far western part of Skamania County to agree to provide Quit Line information to area residents.
- * In an effort to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure, Skamania Events and Recreation is trying to get the word out about not smoking in front of their Rock Creek Building and the nearby skate park.
- * Stevenson High School MASH members will soon be educating elementary schools throughout the county about tobacco free living. MASH members plan to participate in an upcoming TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use) training (see calendar).
- * Quit Line matches have been a big hit with employees at Dolce Skamania Lodge. A box of matches placed in the outdoor smoking area disappeared quickly and they have already requested more.



Time to Plan for Kick Butts Day

Now is the time to start planning for Kick Butts Day. It is coming up on March 31 with new materials and creative ideas for 2004! Kick Butts Day is the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids' annual celebration of youth leadership and activism. This year will mark the ninth annual KBD, and according to the Campaign for Tobacco Free kids we're in for some exciting changes. Youth advocates from around the country have contributed to the new and improved Activity Guide, sharing activity and event ideas for youth of all ages. You can request your Activity Guide and begin registering your events today by logging onto <http://kickbuttsday.org>. The Activity Guide will help you get started, provide instructions for 26 different activities, suggest ways to attract media to your event and offer strategies for staying involved once the hype of the event dies down. Signing up is FREE and will provide your group with support from the Campaign and free stuff for larger events.

Most States get Poor Grade for Tobacco Policies

Most US states failed to make the grade when it comes to workplace smoking laws, cigarette taxes, youth access to tobacco and funding of smoking prevention programs. The American Lung Association 2003 Report Card shows that many states are not taking the steps necessary to protect residents from the deadly effects of tobacco. Washington's policy of restricting but not banning smoking from most public places earned the state only a satisfactory grade for smokefree air. The state received an "A" for its cigarette tax rate of \$1.425 per pack of cigarettes. www.Lungaction.org/reports

Report Card

Washington Grades 2003:

Smokefree air	C
Youth Access	C
Tobacco Prevention & Control Spending	B
Cigarette Taxes	A

Youth Town Hall Addresses Smoking

Ten teens representing area high schools will discuss smoking on outdoor county property during a Youth Town Hall April 16. First they will meet with the Clark County Health Department to learn about the issue of secondhand smoke and Washington's Clean Indoor Air Law. Next, they will tour a Ridgefield Park to see the "Voluntary Smoke Free" signage that the youth tobacco prevention group BREATHE erected there. They will also tour the Clark County Public Service Center, which is subject to the Clean Indoor Air Law as it pertains to smoking near entrances and indoors. Lastly, the teens will have lunch with the County Commissioners and based on what they have learned on their tours and from the Health Department, will discuss their ideas, issues, and points of view related to smoking on outdoor county property and whether the county can or should regulate smoking in outdoor public places, such as parks.

Smoking in a Public Building is Against the Law

Smoking in public buildings is the last article we address in our series on tobacco and the law in Clark County. RCW 70.160.300 prohibits smoking in public buildings except in designated smoking areas. A violation of this Class III infraction carries a fine of \$101. The Clark County Health Department has received the 2004-05 Tobacco Prevention and Control Work Plan from the Department of Health. The work plan will involve addressing policy, clarification and education on the Clean Indoor Air Law, including working with agencies charged with enforcing laws and ordinances regarding smoking in public places. A special thanks to Commander Tony Barnes from the Clark County Sheriff's Office for providing us with the infraction and fine information for our 3-part series covering tossing lit cigarettes from a vehicle, possessing tobacco under age 18 and smoking in public buildings.



Clark County Health Department
2000 Fort Vancouver Way
Vancouver, WA 98663

CD-ROM Training Tools for Tobacco Basics

A new training tool covering tobacco control basics is available at the Clark County Health Department. The Tobacco Technical Assistance Consortium developed the "Basics of Tobacco Control" CD-ROM, which provides a foundation in the history, groundbreaking strategies, fundamental science and the art of effective advocacy. The CD is available for your use or copy and distribution. In addition, a copy of the "LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) populations and Tobacco" CD-ROM is also available at the Health Department. Contact: Contact: James Lanz 360.397.8416

Paul Davis Moves to State Tobacco Program

Paul Davis, formerly of ESD 112 in Vancouver, was recently hired as a contract manager for the Washington Tobacco Prevention and Control program (TPC). His first day of work was January 12. "Paul has worked with the TPC program in his capacity as a prevention and intervention specialist with the ESD - he will be a great addition to the TPC team," said Tom Weidemann, TPC program. Paul will be responsible for 15 counties, including, Pierce, Spokane and King counties. Carla Huyck will continue to be responsible for Clark and Skamania counties as well as 18 others. ESD 112 just filled the full time prevention Intervention Specialist vacancy for Ridgefield but they still have a part-time vacancy in LaCenter. Check the ESD 112 website www.esd112.org, and click the "job opportunities" link for further information on these positions.

Tobacco Tid-Bits is Online

Share this newsletter with your friends anywhere in the world. Just a reminder that Tobacco Tid-Bits is posted on both Clark County and ESD 112's web sites. To find it on the County's web site go to <http://www.clark.wa.gov>. From the Department & Program scroll down menu, go to Health Department. Click on Personal Health Services, then Tobacco Prevention, then Publications. For ESD 112's web site, log onto www.preventioncenter.esd112.org click on "Programs" then "Tobacco Prevention and Intervention" scroll to the "Tobacco Tid-Bits" link at the bottom of the page.

Tobacco Free Coalition of Clark County

The next Tobacco Free Coalition of Clark County meeting will be held Feb 10 (see calendar). The agenda includes "Smoking & Pregnancy - What can be done?" Short presentations, discussion and brainstorming with a panel of providers is scheduled. All members are encouraged to bring tools and resources that have proven effective with this group to share with other members. The Coalition will also select a Chair-Elect and discuss proposed revisions to the membership section in the Coalition's Structure and Guidelines document.

Latino Community Resources

A new Latino Community Resource group recently formed in Clark County. Its goal is to maintain a network of individuals and organizations that share information and provide the Latino community with services, information, and access to resources. Plans are underway for a "Resource Directory for the Hispanic Community" and a Resource Fair to be held in March at De Leon's Tortilleria y Tienda on Fourth Plain Blvd. For more information, contact Laura Eldridge, Sea Mar Community Health Center 360.896.5128 or James Lanz, Clark County Health Department 360.397.8416.

Diners Breathing Easier in Skamania County

The smokefree restaurant rate has gone up! Now 87% of restaurants in Skamania County are smokefree. Congratulations!

Tobacco Quit Line
877-270-STOP
toll-free 7 8 6 7
QUITLINE.COM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1/27-28 Life Skills Curriculum training** - Work Source Bldg. , White Salmon 8:30-3:30 PM. Contact: Deb Drandoff 360.750.7500 x303
- 1/30-31 SpeakOUT workshop** - Red Lion Inn, Salmon Creek. Starts at 4 PM on Friday and ends at 4 PM on Saturday. Pre-registration required. Contact: Erin Wilson 800.577.6552 or erin.wilson@cancer.org
- 1/31 Women's Resource Fair** - Skyview High School, 10 AM - 4 PM. Contact: Kristine Perry 360.258.3844
- 2/10 Tobacco Free Coalition of Clark County meeting** - Medical Office Building, 100 E 33rd ST, Vancouver (2nd Floor in Fir/Willow rooms) 2:30-4:30 PM Contact: James Lanz 360.397.8416
- 2/12 TAP Tobacco Cessation Curriculum training** Clark County Voc. Skills Center, Mt. Hood Rm. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 PM Cost: \$10 per participant (includes lunch) Contact: Sherri Boylan, ESD 112 360.750.7500 x133
- 2/18 Cessation Task Force meeting** - Clark County Health Department, 2:30 - 4:00 PM Contact: James Lanz 360.397.8416
- 2/25 TATU training**—Water Resources Education Center, 8-1:30 PM. Contact: James Kissee 360.397.8214

Please let us know about your upcoming tobacco-related events so we can post them here